

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1.-15. (Cancelled)
16. (New) A method for screening a sample for the presence of *K. brevis*, comprising:
applying an amplification process to the sample in the presence of a primer, specific to a target nucleotide sequence unique to *K. brevis*; and assaying the sample for the presence of the probe.
17. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the target nucleotide sequence comprises the ribulose 1, 5-biphosphate carboxylase-oxygenase large subunit (rbcL) of *K. brevis*.
18. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the target nucleotide sequence is about 87 to 91 base pairs in length
19. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the amplification process is selected from the group consisting of real-time reverse-transcriptase polymerase chain reaction and quantitative thermocycling.
20. (New) The method of claim 19 wherein the at least one primer comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 1 and SEQ. ID. No. 2.
21. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the at least one primer is specific to a nucleotide sequence about 91 base pairs in length.
22. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the at least one primer further comprises a forward primer consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 1.
23. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the at least one primer further comprises a reverse primer consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 2.
24. (New) The method of claim 20 wherein the amplification process is applied to the sample in the presence of a probe.
25. (New) The method of claim 24 wherein the probe comprises a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 3.
26. (New) The method of claim 16 wherein the amplification process is real time nucleic acid sequence based amplification.
27. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the at least one primer comprises a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 4 and SEQ. ID. No. 5.
28. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the amplification process is applied to sample in the presence of a probe.

29. (New) The method of claim 28 wherein the probe comprises a nucleotide sequence consisting of SEQ. ID. No. 3.
30. (New) The method of claim 26 wherein the at least one primer is specific to a nucleotide sequence about 87 base pairs in length.
31. (New) A primer set for detecting the presence of *K. brevis*, comprising:
a first primer comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 1; and
a second primer comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 2.
32. (New) The primer set of claim 31 wherein the first primer is a forward primer.
33. (New) The primer set of claim 31 wherein the second primer is a reverse primer.
34. (New) The primer set of claim 31, further comprising a probe comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 3.
35. (New) A primer set for detecting the presence of *K. brevis*, comprising:
a first primer comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 4; and
a second primer comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 5.
36. (New) The primer set of claim 35, further comprising a probe comprising a base sequence SEQ. ID. No. 6.